GREATER LAWNDALE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NEWS NOTES

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1,000 MEMBER GOAL REACHED - SOIREE TERMED SUCCESSFUL

The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission has reached its goal of 1000 members, it was announced on January 12 at the "Twelfth Night Soiree," by Mrs. Brenetta Howell, chairman of the Commission's Steering Committee of Block Clubs. This is the first year in GLCC history that the membership has reached the 1000-member mark.

Mrs. Mahala Evans presents plaques to first place winners in the Holiday Lighting Contest.

This is, however, the second and very successful year for the "Twlefth Night Soiree." It was organized and sponsored by the Commission's Steering Committee of Block Clubs & Ladies Aux.

Other features of the Soiree were:

- Presentation of awards to winners of the annual Holiday Lighting Contest;
- Kick-off for a hi-fi raffle by the North Lawndale Junior Society;
- Special recognition of Lawndale residents who obtained 100 or more memberships for the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission.
- Congregation of 400 people from the entire 5-1/2 sq. miles in Lawndale for fun and frolic.

PRIZE WINNERS LISTED

First prize winners of the Holiday Lighting Contest, sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary, received engraved shield-shaped plaques. They were presented by Mrs. Mahala Evans to Mrs. Herman Waterford, 1643 S. Millard; the 1800 South Karlov Block Club; Father Martin at Most Precious Blood Church, 2409 W. Congress; Julia Fairfax, Cherokee Hotel, 3307 W. Douglas; and Sears, Roebuck and Co., 925 S. Homan, represented by Mr. Paul Howard.

Brotherhood Week Announced by NCJJ

The National Conference of Christians & Jews invites everyone to observe Brotherhood Week (February 19 thru 26.) Several suggestions offered by the Conference to actively participate in Brotherhood Week are:

Invite a guest speaker for a neighborhood meeting, plan choral programs, present pageants and dramatic readings, display posters, show films, etc., all dealing with the theme of brotherhood.

The three purposes of Brotherhood Week as set up by the NCCJ are: 1 - Rededication to the basic ideals of respect for individuals and peoples; 2 - Practical steps which people can take to promote an understanding and realization of these ideals; and 3 - Enlistment of contributing members in year-round activities to build brotherhood everywhere.

Certificates were awarded to second and third prize winners: Mrs. Elura Walker, 1839 S. Karlov; Nimbe Howard, 3420 West Grenshaw; P. S. Francois, 3416 W. Grenshaw; the 4000 and 4100 W. 21st Place Block Clubs; and the 4100 W. 21st Street Block Club.

Two honorable mention citations were given to: Mrs. Georgia Day, 3118 W. Douglas, and Father O'Keefe of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 3121 W. Jackson.

JUDGES CHOSE WINNERS

Judges from the Midwest Community selected these winners during the last week of December. The judging committee was composed of: Mrs. Rachel Ridley, chairman, 2345 W. Monroe; Mrs. Adean Dunagun, 2724 W. Maypole; Mrs. Gertrude Hill, 3408 W. Carroll; Mrs. Fannie Woodley, 3026 W. Warren; Mrs. Mary K. Rossi, 2306 N. Avers; and Frank Ardito, 6125 S. Halsted.

The North Lawndale Junior Society, a recently formed 50-member youth group, sponsored by Mrs. Belle Whaley, was honored for its civic-minded goals and achievements by being presented a TV-hi-fi combination set as a means to raise funds. Presented by the Commission's Steering Committee of Block Clubs, the set was procured by Eugene Kaczmarek of Sears, Roebuck and Co.

Three women received engraved coin holders for obtaining for the Commission 100 or more memberships. Mrs. Brenetta Howell made the presentation. Those receiving the coin holders were:

(Continued on Page 3 - Col. 3)

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS ...

WILLIAM W. BUSCH

Another Lawndale youth club has just been recognized for its merits and achievements.

The North Lawndale Junior Society has been chosen to be the recipient of a combination TV-hi-fi set given by the Steering Committee of Block Clubs of the GLCC through the solicitation of Eugene Kaczmarek, on Jan. 12, 1961, at the Twelfth Night Soiree.

The Steering Com. of Block Clubs annually helps a deserving youth group by presenting to them an item which the group can use as a means of raising funds. Last year an award was given to the Midwest Youth Orchestra so they could purchase instruments.

TO BUY EQUIPMENT

The Junior Society plans to sell chances for the set so they can purchase more equipt. for their clubroom, which is in the home of their sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Whaley, 2135 So. Central Park. They hope to purchase more typewriters and plan for a special summer camping trip.

Formed from a core of seven young people in February, 1960, Mrs. Whaley's youth group now consists of about 50 boys & girls, many of whom are members of the recently formed Lawndale Junior Achievement teams.

One of the most civic and community minded youth groups in Lawndale, the North Lawndale Jr. Society has performed a variety of public services since its inception. Among these are: serving as ushers for community meetings, aiding in various capacities during the TB and polio innoculation campaigns, originating and distributing clean-up posters for block groups and other community groups, designing unique meeting programs, and singing or playing for community teas and functions held at the Hull House.

PRODUCES NEWSLETTER

Besides being outgoing, the club has many cohesive internal functions. The young people produce a monthly newsletter, with some help from John Smith, a teacher at Herzl School. Robt. Smith their athletic director & typing instructor, gave typing lessons. Further typing instructions are delayed for the lack of available typewriters.

Weekly activities include a class, "DESIGN FOR LIVING," taught by Mrs. Esther Anderson, a supervisor at the Illinois Bell Telephone Co.; basketball or volleyball games, swimming parties at the Sears YMCA; and band practice for the 12-piece band.

Special activities are the sewing classes, the girls' chorus which carolled throughout the community during the Holidays, arts and crafts, and educational and informational films which are shown in the club house for all interested young people.

DESIGNED FOR YOUTH

Both the films and the class, "Design for Living" are designed specifically to answer questions which teenage youths are most concerned with. Some of the films that have been shown are "Date Etiquette," "Make Way for Youth," and biographies of Abraham Lincoln, George Washington Carver, and Marion Anderson, all available from the public library.

Summer opens up a special wealth of activities such as camping trips, music and drama outings on summer afternoons at Shedd Park, and baseball games with their own team, the Vikings.

Mrs. Whaley, secy. of the Steering Committee of Block Clubs, has always been active in community affairs. She has been a member of GLCC for several years.

A mother of two grown children no longer at home, Mrs. Whaley is as enthusiastic about her youth group as any mother about her children. She and her husband organized the group to curtail some of the undesirable youth activities and some of the adverse publicity about youth.

William W. Busch, President

So You're Buying A Home

By MARK J. SATTER

A disheartening truth faces all persons and agencies who would attempt to provide home financing in minority communities. A disproportionately high number of people in such communities simply cannot qualify for home loans because of outstanding indebtedness and judgments incurred in purchase of cars, clothing, jewelry and other small trinkets. To say it another way, the would-be home buyer who has defaulted on payment for an automobile, or refrigerator, or any of the many items sold on time payment plans, has told the world that he is unable to pass the first test required of a homeowner. He has done this in a way that "makes a record" for all to see, and becomes a part of all court proceedings. Should he ever make application for a loan with which to buy a home, this record comes to the attention of his lender. The lender then simply will not approve the request for a loan, and our would-be home owner is then barred, by his own fault, from participating in the loan processes.

Worse still is the position of the wage earner who has so involved himself in debt that he has been forced into bankruptcy. While many of us have learned to our later regret that bankruptcy will not stand in the way of our getting further credit and further involvement of our paycheck, we many times have not learned that by the act of bankruptcy we have disqualified ourselves from participating in the many honest avenues of credit which had previously been open to us.

Home ownership agencies set up for the purpose of making homes available on reasonable price to minority people just cannot find qualified buyers. By qualified, we mean merely that the borrower is a person who has not already made a bad credit record.

While a good part of responsibility for this condition can be traced to the unscrupulous merchants in our midst, and to the Illinois credit laws which protect such merchants, we of the community cannot hide from our own share of fault for these conditions.

We must be mindful of the costly lesson that the poor purchase made to satisfy vanity does have a price far more costly than were we prepared to pay at the time. The minority householder must learn the expensive lesson that the small article he wears around his wrist, and the small loan made for a week's vacation, and that expensive used car will in the long run prevent him from owning a home of his own, and give him for all time a bad credit record in the areas where good credit can cut in half the costs for the things he buys.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS AND HOW THEY AFFECT TAXES

The Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council has prepared a list of home improvements and explain which of these improvements may result in higher taxes and which do not cause higher taxes.

Those that do not increase your taxes are:

- Add a dormer or bay window *
- Add or replace gutters or downspouts
- Place siding over existing siding *
- Repair or replace sidewalks or drives
- Repair porches or steps
- Replace porches *
- Insulate with weather stripping, storm doors or storm windows
- Repair or replace fence
- Replace existing masonry *
- Repair roof
- Replace roof * (if not tile or slate)
- Construct patios or paved parking area
- Build a screened-in or totally open porch *
- Add or improve lawns, trees, and landscaping
- Paint
- Install awnings or shades
- Rewire electrical system * and modernize fixtures
- Replace plumbing fixtures * (if not part of complete modernization)
- Replace old furnace with new one of same type *
- Add closets and built-in storage areas
- Install automatic hot water heaters *
- Add partitions, new wall surface and new ceilings (excluding conversions) *
- Replace old flooring
- Paint, plaster or redecorate
- Install exhaust fans *
- Add a toilet (not a complete bath) *

** Those indicated with an asterisk require a permit from the Department of Buildings, 320 No. Clark St., DE 7-5252.)*

The following, more extensive improvements will probably result in increased taxes. The Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council has emphasized, though, that the benefits received from these improvements far exceed the slightly higher taxes you may pay as you increase the value of your home. All of the following require permits:

EXAMPLES:-

- Structural changes resulting in larger building area (if zoning permits)
- Add a complete bathroom
- Finishing off a room in attic or basement
- Enclosing and heating a porch
- Complete modernization and conversion
- Changing from single family to multiple family use (if zoning permits)
- Adding a garage or breezeway
- Replacing stove or hot air gravity heat with forced hot air heat
- Replacing siding with masonry veneer or face brick

More information may be obtained from the Cook County Assessor's Office and the Dept. of Buildings, City of Chicago.

JA TEAMS IN ACTION

Alvin Ratliff and Herbert Brown of Standard Manufacturing, one of the six Lawndale Junior Achievement teams, buff Salt and Pepper Shakers while Claude Peck, Jr. of Ryerson Steel Co., and Quentin Sampson of Peoples Gas Co. look on.

Lawndale JA teams will be represented at the city-wide JA trade fair, to be held at the Amphitheater on February 4 and 5. Tickets are on sale for this now.

RICHARD DEAN on GLCC STAFF

Richard C. Dean, a Lawndale resident, has just joined the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission as housing and zoning officer.

Dean, who is a graduate of Crane Junior College and attended the University of Chicago as a political science major, became interested in problems of conservation in Lawndale during the four years he has lived in the area.

He is replacing William E. Bonner, housing and zoning officer for the Commission for 14 months.

A native-born Chicagoan, Dean lives at 1315 S. Independence with his wife, Doris, and his 15-month-old son, Miles.

SOIREE (Continued)

Mrs. Gladys Eubanks, 4014 W. Grenshaw; Mrs. Rose Marie Love, 1809 S. Central Pk; and Mrs. Georgia Day, 3118 W. Douglas Bl. Three other people received certificates for securing a considerable number of memberships. They were: Mr. Robert Byrd, 2126 S. Lawndale; Mrs. Julia Fairfax, 3538 W. Douglas; and Mrs. Ruth Wilson, 3348 W. Douglas.

HELD FOR 2d YEAR

Being held for the second year, the "Twelfth Night Soiree" is the only opportunity throughout the year for people from the entire Lawndale area to get together in a relaxed situation.

MC'd by the executive editor of the Westside Booster, Gus Savage and Atty. Chester Blair, the program included presentations by the Calypso Royals Youth Band & the No. Lawndale Jr. Society Band and a fine array of refreshments.

The planning committee for the Soiree went to considerable efforts to make the Soiree such a success. They were: Mrs. Belle Whaley and Mrs. Mittie Conditt as co-chairmen; Mrs. Esther Anderson and Mrs. Roberta Thomas as assistants to the chairmen; Mr. Douglas Bradley, Mr. Richard Criley, Mrs. Rosylin Dean, Mrs. Lillie Dixon, Mrs. Jeanette Eller, Mrs. Julia Fairfax, Mrs. Sarah Jones, Mr. Eugene Kaczmarek, Mrs. Elaine Maiden, Mrs. Geneva McCommon, Mrs. Rebe Nicks, and Mr. Jose Vera. Mrs. Juliette B. Buford served as coordinator.

OFFER SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks goes to the following people who offered special services or refreshments: Benjamin F. Lewis, Alderman, 24th Ward; L. C. Branch, Mayor of Lawndale; J. M. Walton, Attorney at Law; Chicago Beverage Co., 13th & Homan; The Grill, Roosevelt and Kedzie; Parker House Sausage Co.; Wonder Baking Co.; P. G. Berland Paint City, Inc.; Willie S. Standard Service Station; Ben Taubin, Clark Super Market; North Lawndale Junior Society; Mr. Thomas Nash; Mrs. Herese Bruckner; Mr. Charlie Thomas; and of course to the Steering Committee of Block Clubs and the Ladies Auxiliary of GLCC.

GREATER LAWNDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

President . . . . . William W. Busch

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-- BRIEFS IN THE NEWS --

Mrs. Juliette B. Buford, GLCC Director of Community Services attended the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy in Washington, D.C.

The Douglas Blvd. Improvement Block Club invited the Hattie Mack Block Club to celebrate a lavish Christmas party. The party was held at the home of Mrs. Julia Fairfax, 3538 W. Douglas.

January 25 will mark the annual meeting and election of officers of the Harrison Court Community Club. This meeting is to be held at 2910 Building at 7:30 on the 25th.

Holiday time was truly a time of cooperation for Lawndale. The 19th and 21st S. Springfield Block Club, as well as other block clubs, had Xmas trees in the yards of each member to beautify the neighborhood and commemorate the Holidays.

Art Linkletter of radio and TV fame, will be the main speaker at the annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association of Metropolitan Chicago on January 24, 6:30 p. m. Mr. Linkletter has been a YMCA member since boyhood. This meeting, to be held at the new exposition center, McCormick Place, will highlight the new Y activities offered in communities throughout Chicagoland. The Sears YMCA, Lawndale's only Y, will be represented by 122 delegates, consisting of Board members, members and friends of the Y.

Five Farragut High School youths have been notified that they are semi-finalists in the Illinois State Scholarship Examinations. They are: Carlienn Burhop, 2632 S. Springfield; Barbara Frietag, 2714 S. Ridgeway; Raymon Rodriguez, 2354 S. St. Louis; Kay Joyce Sonns, 3143 So. Pulaski; and Elaine Trepina, 2712 S. Karlov.

The young people of the Greater Open Door Baptist Church are celebrating Youth Week, January 29 thru February 5. The theme of the week will be, "To Guide You."

One block club gave two parties during the Holidays - one for the ladies and their husbands, and one for the children. The Hattie Mack Block Club gave these parties. The first was given on December 10 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rigsby. The second was on December 16th in the home of Mrs. Hattie Mack and Mrs. Wilson for the 56 children who attended. Refreshments, games and dancing delighted the young people and their hostesses: Mrs. Conditt, Mrs. Maiden, Mrs. Rigsby, Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Wilson.

Sears YMCA is holding "Neighborhood Open House" on January 22 from 2:30 to 4:30. All neighbors, friends, and parents of Y members are invited to observe the many activities of boys and girls in a special program. Refreshments are a part of the program, too.

The Manley School Neighborhood Citizens' Committee held the first of a series of workshops for parents of the Manley School area. The four workshops, to be held a month apart, will feature specialists in various fields related to child-rearing, discussion leaders, and small group discussions. Parents and interested adults can obtain more information about these workshops from Mr. Kelleher at Manley School (SA 2-5059) or Milton Hyman at the Commission on Youth Welfare (LA 2-7336).

Two parties have been planned for the Orthodox Jewish Home for the Aged. One was a Holiday staff party, at which students from Pope School were invited to sing carols and perform as a square dance group. The other will be held on Feb. 23 for the Golden Age Clubs of Marillac House, I. B. Wells, Jane Adams Projects, and United Luth. Church. The Brotherhood Party will be held on the 23rd at 1:00 p.m. The main speaker will be Msgr. Thomas Holbrook, Asst. Archdiocesan Supervisor of Catholic Charities for this 10th annual friendship party.

"The Challenge of Our Founders" is the theme for the February meeting of Farragut High School PTA. The meeting, a Founder's Day meeting, will be held on February 9 at 1:15 p.m., to recognize past presidents and observe Brotherhood Week.

A Christmas party was held on December 17 by the 3000 and 3100 Arthington-Taylor Block Club at the home of Mrs. Lucille Simmons, 3036 W. Arthington.

Job opportunities are being offered by two organizations at this time. There are several openings for clerk-stenographers in the Social Security District Office, 1425 S. Racine. Typing, shorthand, and civil service standards are necessary for these positions. Contact Mrs. Schmidt, Claims Supervisor or Mr. Nix, Assistant District Manager at MOnroe 6-9436.

The second organization is a cosmetic company which plans to open a branch in Lawndale and is looking for qualified sales people for full-time or part-time. A training program will be held for the sales people. Contact Bob Winbush or Bennett Johnson at RO 2-4136 or SA 2-4980.

The Chicago Transit Authority is putting up for sale - lots made available by the removal of the Garfield Park elevated. For people interested in the locations of these lots, contact Helen Johnson at the GLCC office, VA 6-3226.

JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES

CALENDAR

JAN. 24	Steering Committee of Block Clubs, 8:00 p.m., Sears YMCA.
FEB. 10	Schools Committee Meeting, 3:30 - 5:00 and 8:00 - 9:30 p.m., Sears YMCA.
FEB. 14	GLCC Executive Committee Meeting, 11:45 a.m., Sears YMCA.
FEB. 14	Steering Committee of Block Clubs, 8:00 p.m., Sears YMCA.
FEB. 19 - 26	Brotherhood Week
FEB. 28	GLCC Board of Directors Meeting, 11:45 a.m., Sears YMCA.
FEB. 28	Steering Committee of Block Clubs, 8:00 p.m., Sears YMCA.